



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : David A. Martin
FOR : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PREVENTING
CHECK FRAUD
SERIAL NO. : 09/345,202
FILED : June 30, 1999
LAST OFFICE ACTION : December 6, 2001
EXAMINER : Geoffrey R. Akers
GROUP ART UNIT : 2164
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 0236.0006

Akron, Ohio 44308-1147
August 8, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box DD, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the following date:

August 8, 2002

Janet E. Sigler
Janet E. Sigler

Box DD
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the applicant files this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) under at least one of the following five circumstances:

- ☐ 1. **There is No Information to disclose:** No patent novelty search was performed in this case and neither the Applicant nor the undersigned are aware of any prior art devices or documents which they believe to be material to the invention as claimed. This document is being supplied for informational purposes to the Examiner and is evidence of our desire to comply with the duty of disclosure.
- ☐ 2. **Under § 1.97**, this IDS is filed with the knowledge that it will NOT be considered, but WILL be placed in the file, if
- (1) this IDS is filed BEFORE the grant of a patent; AND
 - (2) this IDS does NOT comply with the requirements noted below
- ☐ 3. **Under § 1.97(b)**, this IDS should be considered because it is being filed
- (1) within 3 months of the filing date of a national application, other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); OR
 - (2) within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage of an international application as set forth in § 1.491; OR
 - (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; OR
 - (4) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114, whichever occurs last.
- ☒ 4. **Under § 1.97(c)**: this IDS should be considered because it is being filed after the period specified Under § 1.97(b) above, BUT
- (1) before either the mailing date of a final action under § 1.113 OR
 - (2) before the mailing date of a notice of allowance under § 1.311; OR
 - (3) before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs last AND

it is accompanied by one of the following statements under § 1.97(e):

I, Daniel A. Thomson, the undersigned hereby state:

- (a) ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement,
OR

(b) ☒ To the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement; **OR**

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 180.00 is enclosed to cover the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) as required when neither item (a) nor (b) above are selected.

☐ 5. **Under § 1.97(d):** this IDS should be considered because

- (1) it is being filed after the period specified Under § 1.97(c) above but **ON OR BEFORE** payment of the issue fee, **AND**
(2) it is accompanied by one of the following statements under § 1.97(e):

I, Daniel A. Thomson, the undersigned hereby state:

(a) ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement,
OR

(b) ☐ To the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement; **AND**

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 180.00 is enclosed for the petition fee as set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

In accordance with § 1.56 and § 1.97 the references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of these cited documents are enclosed.

☒ Please charge deposit account No. 05-0875 if any additional fees are required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references

by returning a copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A, with initials or other appropriate marks.

Respectfully submitted,

EMERSON & SKERLOTIS

August 8, 2002

Date



Daniel A. Thomson

Reg. No. 43,189

One Cascade Plaza, Fourteenth Floor

Akron, Ohio 44308-1147

Telephone No.: (330) 535-9999

Fax No.: (330) 535-5000

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Application Number | 09/345,202 |
| | | | | Filing Date | June 30, 1999 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Martin |
| | | | | Art Unit | 2164 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Akers |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 0236.0006 |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/345,202

Filing Date June 30, 1999

First Named Inventor Martin

Art Unit 2164

Examiner Name Akers

Attorney Docket Number 0236.0006

Sheet 2 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| Examiner Signature | | | Date Considered | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the right of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.